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Now California guarantees  
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choice, either public or private, if  
you meet the requirements. The  
enclosed information will help  
you through the process.”

*Rick Keene*

—Rick Keene  
Assemblyman, 3rd District

“I will continue to work hard to  
make sure everyone has access  
to a college education.”



Assemblyman  
Rick Keene  
3rd District



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Apply for a  
Cal Grant.  
It could help  
pay for college.

If you are not sure whether you meet  
financial-need requirements, apply  
anyway. The California Student Aid  
Commission annually adjusts the income  
ceilings and changes occur that can  
alter a family's situation. You will not  
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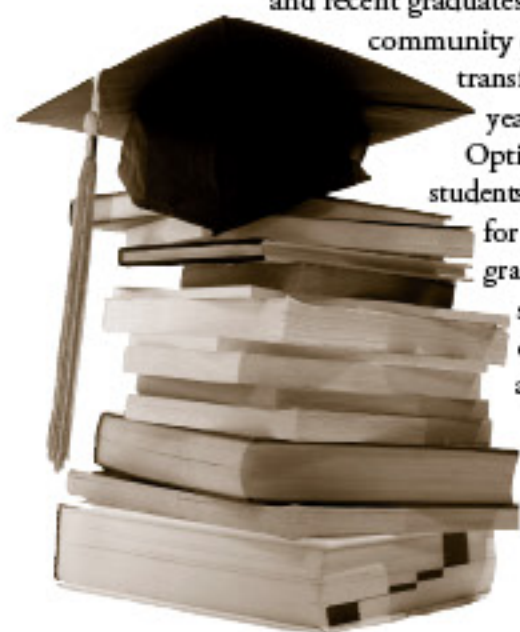
## California's Cal Grant Guarantee!

The California Legislature expanded access to higher education through enactment of the Cal Grant Entitlement Program.

In the past, thousands of students who qualified for Cal Grants were turned away for lack of state funds. Now California guarantees that you will receive a grant (not a loan) to help pay your costs at a college or university of your choice, either public or private, if you meet the requirements in Option 1 or 2.

Option 1 is for high school seniors and recent graduates. Option 2 is for community college students transferring to four-year institutions.

Option 3 is open to students who don't qualify for a guaranteed grant. If you're not sure whether you qualify, apply anyway.



Apply between January 1 and March 2 no more than one year after high school graduation (or passed GED)

## Option 1

You will be guaranteed a Cal Grant if you:

- Apply between January 1 and March 2 no more than one year after high school graduation (or passed GED)
- Meet financial-need requirements (visit the California Student Aid Commission website at [www.csac.ca.gov](http://www.csac.ca.gov))
- Have a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 for a Cal Grant A or 2.0 for a Cal Grant B on a 4.0 scale.

## Option 2

You will be guaranteed a Cal Grant if you:

- Have graduated from a California high school as a California resident in 2001 or later and are transferring from a community college to a four-year institution.
- Have a GPA of at least 2.4 in approved college coursework.
- Are under 28 years old.
- Meet financial-need requirements.
- Apply between January 1 and March 2 prior to the Fall in which you plan to transfer.

## Option 3

Students with financial need who don't meet the requirements of Options 1 or 2 still can compete for thousands of additional Cal Grants. The deadline is March 2.

There is one exception: Students enrolled in community colleges can also apply for competitive Cal Grants until September 2.

## Cal Grants A and B:

Cal Grant awards are generally based on the costs of attending a particular college or university. Cal Grant A provides tuition and fee coverage for students in the California State University system and the University of California. Cal Grant A currently offers a maximum of \$9,708 per year for private universities.

Cal Grant B students, the students with the greatest financial need, receive \$1,551 in their first year. In subsequent years, they receive that amount plus a sum to reflect the costs of tuition and fees.

Cal Grant A provides tuition and fee coverage for students in the California State University system and the University of California. Cal Grant A currently offers a maximum of \$9,708 per year for private universities.

## Apply Today!

If you are not sure whether you meet financial-need requirements, apply anyway. The California Student Aid Commission annually adjusts the income ceilings and changes occur that can alter a family's situation. **APPLY ANYWAY.** You will not qualify if you do not apply. For information on income qualifications, visit the California Student Aid Commission's website.

## Cal Grant Check List

Obtain an application, called a Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, from your high school or college financial-aid office. You may apply online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Applications must be submitted between January 1 and **March 2**, and are available in English or Spanish.

If your school does not submit GPAs electronically to CSAC, you must obtain a Student Aid Commission GPA verification form from your high school counselor or college financial-aid office. A high school or college counselor must certify your GPA on this form.

Make a photocopy of your completed FAFSA application and send the original to the federal address on the form (unless you have applied online).

Make a photocopy of your GPA verification form and send it directly to the California Student Aid Commission (some schools will electronically submit the GPA verification form. Check with your school).

The federal reviewer will send you a confirmation notice, called a Student Aid Report (SAR), within four weeks. Review this confirmation notice and submit corrections quickly. If you do not receive a SAR, call (319) 337-5665 or (800) 433-3243.

The federal reviewer will forward your application to the California Student Aid Commission for consideration for a Cal Grant award. If you have not heard from the Student Aid Commission by May 15, call (916) 526-7590.

*HINT: Avoid waiting until the last minute to apply. An early start will leave time to collect and correct information, ask questions and solve problems.*

<http://www.asm.ca.gov/Keene>